

Sign up for the No Call list And say goodbye to hang-up calls

Are you puzzled, frightened, or fed up with those hang-up calls you get all the time? Your phone rings but there's nobody there when you answer? "Hello? Hello?" you ask for 20 seconds or so and then put the phone down disgusted.

Well, signing up for the No Call list should stop most of these calls.

You see, most hang-ups are the result of telemarketers using a computer called a predictive or automated dialer which calls many consumers at the same time. When the speed of the computer is turned up too high, it calls more consumers than the telemarketers can speak to.

So when you answer the phone and there's no one there it means that the predictive dialer called a lot of people and someone else answered before you did.

"The computer keeps telemarketers busy, but rudely bails out on consumers who answer the phone but don't get connected," says Fran Tryon, administrator of Trade and Consumer Protection. "The No Call list is made to order for people who are frightened or fed up by these calls."

If you want your name to be on the list that tells telemarketers you do not want to be called, you can sign up now. Simply go on-line at NoCall.Wisconsin.gov or dial 1-866-966-2255 (1-866-9No-Call). This toll-free number is available 24 hours a day.

Consumers have until December 1 to register for the first list and can register anytime after that to get on the updated list.

The No Call list is a free service of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection ###

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